



Australian Bureau of Statistics

6291.0.55.003 - Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, May 2014

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Summary

Main Features

Data from the monthly Labour Force Survey are released in two stages. The Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) are part of the second release, and include detailed data not contained in the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) product set, which is released one week earlier.

The Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) is released monthly. Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) includes data only collected in February, May, August and November (including industry and occupation).

Since these products are based on the same data as the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) publication, the 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia Explanatory Notes are relevant to both releases.

What's new in the labour force

WHAT'S NEW IN THE LABOUR FORCE

FORTHCOMING CHANGES TO LABOUR FORCE OUTPUTS

Changes to standard Labour Force products will be implemented from the July 2014 to May 2015 issues of this and related publications. These changes have arisen from the ABS review in 2010-11 of content included in the labour household survey program, as described in the Information Paper: Outcomes of the Labour Household Surveys Content Review, 2012 (cat. no. 6107.0).

Further information on changes to outputs will be provided in an update to the Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics (cat. no. 6292.0), to be released on 26 June 2014.

REVISION TO ACTIVE JOB SEARCH STEPS

From the July 2014 issue of this and related publications, the ABS will change some of the

job search steps in the Labour Force Survey (LFS) to better reflect the nature of job search practices in Australia and to better align with international standards. This note outlines the current practice, what the changes are, the reasons for the changes, and the impact on the estimates of the unemployed population, which are not expected to be statistically significant.

In accordance with international standards the ABS includes an 'active' job search criteria to define the unemployed population in the LFS. 'Active' job search steps are those which put a person in contact with prospective employers for work, either directly or through intermediaries (such as employment services, agencies or recruiting firms), or represent steps towards 'self-employment'. See the Glossary for the list of current active job search steps. People who only looked in newspapers or read job advertisements on the internet are not considered actively looking for work, as it is impossible to obtain work without some additional active job search step (for example, contacting the employer).

To maintain consistency in the underlying concept of active job search over time, it is necessary to periodically review the steps which are considered active to reflect current and emerging practices in the labour market. For example, in July 2011 looking on the internet was added to looking in newspapers as a passive job search step and reference to Centrelink touch screens was removed.

WHAT CHANGES ARE OCCURRING?

Changes to the job search steps will be made to the LFS questionnaire from July 2014. These changes aim to more accurately reflect the role of Centrelink in relation to job seekers, to provide greater consistency of treatment of certain job search steps, and to include logical job search steps that are currently not included.

Two new active job search steps will be included in the survey:

- 'had an interview with an employer for work' and
- 'taken steps to purchase or start your own business'.

Having an interview with an employer is a logical step in the process of getting a job, and given that it may take some time for people to be offered a job after applying (during which time they may attend an interview), including this as an active job search step means that people who are in the process of being considered for a job will not necessarily change from being classified as unemployed to not in the labour force if there are time lags between applying for, being interviewed for and being offered a job.

The previous suite of job search steps did not consider steps taken to start or purchase a business as an active job search step. Activities such as applying for an Australian Business Number or licences, or seeking finance to establish or purchase a business, or obtaining premises or equipment, are considered job search activities for people who are looking to be 'self-employed', i.e. working in their own business. The recognition of these as active job search steps was agreed to at the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, in October 2013, where the standards for work, employment and labour underutilisation were revised.

In addition, two steps which are currently 'active' steps will no longer be considered sufficient for the respondent to be classified as actively looking for work. These are 'checked notice boards' and 'been registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker'.

Currently, the step 'looking in newspapers or on the internet' is not an active job search step, as without taking further steps (such as responding to an advertisement or applying to an employer for a job) a prospective employer would not be made aware that the person was looking for work. Checking notice boards is not conceptually different from checking in newspapers or on the internet, so should be treated in the same way (as not an active job search step), and will be rolled into the current response 'looking in newspapers or on the internet'.

The role of Centrelink in relation to job seekers has changed over time. The core function of Centrelink in relation to job seekers is in the administration of income support, rather than directly supporting job search activities. While registering with Centrelink as a job seeker is a necessary step in order to receive government income support, it is not a step relating to actual job search. Job seekers would need to take active job search steps, in order to be considered actively looking for work.

LIKELY IMPACT ON ESTIMATES OF UNEMPLOYMENT

The changes will have no impact on the estimate of persons employed, but may result in some movement between the unemployed and not in the labour force populations.

As accurately measuring any impact is expensive and complex, the ABS will not introduce special collection arrangements to measure the changes to the LFS questionnaire as the net impact of the two sets of changes is not expected to be statistically significant.

It is anticipated that the inclusion of the two new 'active' job search steps (attending an interview and steps to buy or establish a business) would slightly increase the number of people counted as unemployed (who may be considered not in the labour force under the current questionnaire depending on the respondents' other job search activities).

It is anticipated that the changes from active to passive job search (for checking notice boards and registering with Centrelink as a job seeker) will slightly decrease the number of people classified as unemployed. While these categories are included in the current LFS questionnaire, it is not possible to use the LFS data to accurately estimate the impact of this change, as once an active job search step is identified no further job search steps are asked.

Article Archive

This section provides an archive of articles and analysis published in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), promoting the effective use of labour force statistics. Articles are sorted by publication date.

Articles on labour related topics are also regularly released in Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0) and Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0).

Labour Force Survey Archive

What's new in the Labour force

May 2014

What's new in the Labour force

February 2014

Rebenchmarking Labour Force Estimates to the 2011 Census of
Population and Housing

January 2014

| | |
|--|----------------|
| What's new in the Labour force | December 2013 |
| Understanding the Australian Labour Force using ABS statistics | December 2013 |
| What's new in the Labour Force | November 2013 |
| Understanding full-time/part-time status in the Labour Force Survey | September 2013 |
| What's new in the Labour Force | September 2013 |
| Fact sheet did you know - Underemployment | June 2013 |
| What's new in the Labour Force | June 2013 |
| New Labour Force Sample Design | May 2013 |
| Annual Seasonal Reanalysis | May 2013 |
| What's new in Labour Force | May 2013 |
| Transition to online collection of the Labour Force Survey | April 2013 |
| What's new in Labour Force | April 2013 |
| Estimating Jobs in the Australian Labour Market | February 2013 |
| Forthcoming improvements to the content of the Labour Force and Labour Supplementary Surveys | January 2013 |
| What's new in Labour Force | January 2013 |
| Understanding the Australian Labour Force using ABS statistics | January 2013 |
| Rebenchmarking of Labour Force Series | November 2012 |
| Upcoming changes to the Labour Force Survey | July 2012 |
| Labour Household Surveys content review and the Labour Force Survey | June 2012 |
| Employment and mining in Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia | May 2012 |
| ABS Response to recent concerns expressed about employment estimates | April 2012 |
| Population Benchmarks and Labour Force Survey | April 2012 |
| Annual Seasonal Reanalysis | March 2012 |
| Exploring Labour Force Data on joblessness | February 2012 |
| Employment level estimates versus employment to population explained | January 2012 |
| Understanding the Australian Labour Force using ABS statistics | November 2011 |
| Historical Revisions | February 2011 |
| Impact of the floods on the Labour Force Survey | January 2011 |

About this Release

A range of quarterly Excel spreadsheets and SuperTABLE datacubes. The spreadsheets contain broad level data covering all the major items of the Labour Force Survey in time series format, including seasonally adjusted and trend estimates. The datacubes contain more detailed and cross classified original data than the spreadsheets.

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

Data from the monthly Labour Force Survey are released in two stages. The Labour Force,

Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) are part of the second release, and include detailed data not contained in the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) product set, which is released one week earlier.

The Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) is released monthly. Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) includes data only collected in February, May, August and November (including industry and occupation).

Since these products are based on the same data as the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) publication, the 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia Explanatory Notes are relevant to both releases.

Quality Declaration - Summary

QUALITY DECLARATION - SUMMARY

INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Labour Force statistics are compiled from the Labour Force Survey which is conducted each month throughout Australia as part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) household survey program. For information on the institutional environment of the ABS, including the legislative obligations of the ABS, financing and governance arrangements, and mechanisms for scrutiny of ABS operations, please see ABS Institutional Environment.

RELEVANCE

The Labour Force Survey provides monthly information about the labour market activity of Australia's resident civilian population aged 15 years and over. The Labour Force Survey is designed to primarily provide estimates of employment and unemployment for the whole of Australia and, secondarily, for each state and territory.

TIMELINESS

The Labour Force Survey enumeration begins on the Sunday between the 5th and 11th of the month, except for the Christmas and New Year holiday period. In December enumerations starts between the 3rd and 9th (4 weeks after November enumeration begins). In January enumeration starts between the 7th and 13th (5 weeks after December enumeration begins).

Key estimates from the Labour Force Survey are published in two stages. The first, Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), is released 32 days after the commencement of enumeration for the month, with the exception of estimates for December which are published 39 days after the commencement of enumeration.

The second stage includes detailed data that were not part of the first stage and are published in Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003). The second stage is released 7 days after the first stage.

ACCURACY

The Labour Force Survey is based on a sample of private dwellings (approximately 26,000 houses, flats etc) and non-private dwellings, such as hotels and motels. The sample covers about 0.32% of the Australian civilian population aged 15 years or over. The Labour Force Survey is designed primarily to provide estimates of key labour force statistics for the whole of Australia and, secondarily, for each state and territory.

Two types of error are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey: non-sampling error and sampling error.

Non-sampling error arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. Every effort is made to minimise reporting error by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient data processing procedures. Non-sampling error also arises because information cannot be obtained from all persons selected in the survey. The Labour Force Survey receives a high level of cooperation, with an average response rate for the last year being 94%.

Sampling error occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all dwellings in the survey is given by the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

Standard errors of key estimates and movements since the previous month are available in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0). The standard error of other estimates and movements may be calculated by using the spreadsheet contained in Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001).

COHERENCE

The ABS has been conducting the Labour Force Survey each month since February 1978. While seeking to provide a high degree of consistency and comparability over time by minimising changes to the survey, sound survey practice requires careful and continuing maintenance and development to maintain the integrity of the data and the efficiency of the collection.

The changes which have been made to the Labour Force Survey have included changes in sampling methods, estimation methods, concepts, data item definitions, classifications, and time series analysis techniques. In introducing these changes the ABS has generally revised previous estimates to ensure consistency and coherence with current estimates. For a full list of changes made to the Labour Force Survey see Chapter 20 in Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

INTERPRETABILITY

The key estimates from the Labour Force Survey are available as original, seasonally adjusted and trend series. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular influences

which may be present and therefore month-to-month movements may not be reliable indicators of underlying behaviour. To assist in interpreting the underlying behaviour, the ABS produces the trend series by smoothing the seasonally adjusted series to reduce the impact of the irregular component. For further information, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series - Monitoring Trends* (cat. no. 1349.0).

Further information on the terminology and other technical aspects associated with statistics from the Labour Force Survey can be found in the publication *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0), which contains detailed Explanatory Notes, Standard Error information and a Glossary.

ACCESSIBILITY

Please see the Related Information tab for the list of products that are available from this collection.

Standard Errors

Estimates from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) are based on information collected from people in a sample of dwellings, rather than the entire population. Hence the estimates produced may differ from those that would have been produced if the entire population had been included in the survey. The most common measure of the likely difference (or 'sampling error') is the **standard error** (SE).

The ABS considers that estimates with a relative standard error of 25% or more may be subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

To determine if an item has a relative standard error of 25% or more, in SuperTABLE, right click in the centre of the table, select *annotate cells - standard annotations*, and select 'Annotate RSE cut-off values'.

To indicate those cells in spreadsheets with a relative standard error of 25% or more, annotations have been applied prior to dissemination.

In addition, the tables below have been supplied to show estimates at which the relative standard error is 25%. Estimates of the size indicated in the tables, or smaller, are considered to be subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes.

Due to the January 2011 flooding in Queensland the relative standard errors for January will be higher than normal in some regions, therefore for Queensland the estimates at which the relative standard error is 25% will be higher than they appear in the tables below. However from February, the data returns to normal.

The RSEs for July 2013 (50% old sample, 50% new sample) and onwards will be subject to revisions in the future, as more information is known about the new sample after it has been introduced.

Additional information on how standard errors for LFS estimates are produced is available in *Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube* (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001).

| State | NSW | Vic | Qld | SA | WA | Tas | NT | ACT | Aust |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Employed | | | | | | | | | |
| Feb-78 — Sep-82 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 4.5 |
| Oct-82 — Aug-87 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 3.5 |
| Sep-87 — Feb-89 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 4.0 |
| Mar-89 — Aug-92 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 3.5 |
| Sep-92 — Aug-97 | 5.3 | 4.6 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Sep-97 — Sep-98 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 4.4 |
| Oct-98 — Feb-03 | 5.9 | 3.1 | 3.7 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 5.5 |
| Mar-03 — Oct-07 | 6.3 | 3.0 | 4.4 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 6.6 |
| Nov-07 | 6.2 | 3.2 | 4.3 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 6.4 |
| Dec-07 | 6.1 | 3.4 | 4.3 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 6.2 |
| Jan-08 | 6.0 | 3.6 | 4.2 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 6.0 |
| Feb-08 | 5.9 | 3.8 | 4.2 | 2.4 | 2.7 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 5.9 |
| Mar-08 | 5.9 | 4.1 | 4.2 | 2.4 | 3.0 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 5.7 |
| Apr-08 | 5.8 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 5.6 |
| May-08 | 5.7 | 4.7 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 5.4 |
| Jun-08 | 5.5 | 4.9 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 5.3 |
| Jul-08 — Aug-09 | 6.9 | 6.1 | 5.3 | 3.1 | 4.0 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 7.4 |
| Sep-09 | 6.5 | 5.8 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 7.0 |
| Oct-09 | 6.1 | 5.5 | 4.7 | 2.8 | 3.6 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 6.5 |
| Nov-09 | 5.8 | 5.2 | 4.5 | 2.6 | 3.4 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 6.2 |
| Dec-09 — Jun-13 | 5.5 | 4.9 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 5.8 |
| Jul-13 — Jan-14 | 7.7 | 3.8 | 5.5 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 1.7 | 7.8 |
| Feb-14 onwards | 7.9 | 3.9 | 5.6 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 1.7 | 7.9 |
| Unemployed | | | | | | | | | |
| Feb-78 — Sep-82 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 4.5 |
| Oct-82 — Aug-87 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 3.5 |
| Sep-87 — Feb-89 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 4.0 |
| Mar-89 — Aug-92 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 3.5 |
| Sep-92 — Aug-97 | 5.3 | 4.6 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Sep-97 — Sep-98 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 4.4 |
| Oct-98 — Feb-03 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 4.5 | 2.6 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 3.2 | 1.4 | 4.9 |
| Mar-03 — Oct-07 | 6.0 | 5.4 | 4.9 | 2.9 | 3.6 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 5.2 |
| Nov-07 | 6.1 | 5.4 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 3.7 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 1.7 | 5.2 |
| Dec-07 | 6.2 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 5.2 |
| Jan-08 | 6.3 | 5.6 | 5.0 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 5.2 |
| Feb-08 | 6.4 | 5.7 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 4.1 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 5.1 |
| Mar-08 | 6.7 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 3.1 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 5.1 |
| Apr-08 | 6.8 | 5.9 | 5.5 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 5.2 |
| May-08 | 6.9 | 6.0 | 5.5 | 3.3 | 4.8 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 5.1 |
| Jun-08 | 7.1 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 3.3 | 5.0 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 5.1 |
| Jul-08 — Aug-09 | 9.3 | 8.0 | 7.4 | 4.4 | 6.6 | 2.5 | 1.8 | 2.8 | 7.3 |
| Sep-09 | 8.7 | 7.5 | 6.8 | 4.1 | 6.1 | 2.4 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 6.8 |
| Oct-09 | 8.1 | 7.0 | 6.4 | 3.8 | 5.7 | 2.2 | 1.5 | 2.4 | 6.4 |
| Nov-09 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 6.0 | 3.5 | 5.3 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 2.2 | 6.0 |
| Dec-09 — Jun-13 | 7.1 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 3.3 | 5.0 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 5.7 |
| Jul-13 — Jan-14 | 7.3 | 6.6 | 8.4 | 3.7 | 5.8 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 2.2 | 7.1 |
| Feb-14 onwards | 7.4 | 6.7 | 8.6 | 3.8 | 5.9 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 2.3 | 7.3 |
| NILF | | | | | | | | | |
| Feb-78 — Sep-82 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 4.5 |
| Oct-82 — Aug-87 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 3.5 |
| Sep-87 — Feb-89 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 4.0 |
| Mar-89 — Aug-92 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 3.5 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sep-92 — Aug-97 | 5.3 | 4.6 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| Sep-97 — Sep-98 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 4.4 |
| Oct-98 — Feb-03 | 6.4 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 6.0 |
| Mar-03 — Oct-07 | 7.8 | 3.7 | 5.2 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 1.3 | 7.3 |
| Nov-07 | 7.6 | 3.9 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 7.0 |
| Dec-07 | 7.4 | 4.1 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 6.8 |
| Jan-08 | 7.3 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 6.6 |
| Feb-08 | 7.1 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 6.3 |
| Mar-08 | 7.1 | 5.0 | 4.9 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 6.2 |
| Apr-08 | 7.0 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 3.2 | 3.9 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 6.0 |
| May-08 | 6.8 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 4.0 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 5.8 |
| Jun-08 | 6.6 | 6.0 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 4.1 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 5.6 |
| Jul-08 — Aug-09 | 8.3 | 7.6 | 6.5 | 4.0 | 5.2 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 8.0 |
| Sep-09 | 7.8 | 7.2 | 6.1 | 3.7 | 4.9 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 7.4 |
| Oct-09 | 7.3 | 6.7 | 5.8 | 3.5 | 4.6 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.8 | 6.9 |
| Nov-09 | 6.9 | 6.4 | 5.4 | 3.3 | 4.4 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 6.5 |
| Dec-09 — Jun-13 | 6.6 | 6.0 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 4.1 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 6.2 |
| Jul-13 — Jan-14 | 8.4 | 4.4 | 9.8 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 0.7 | 2.5 | 9.0 |
| Feb-14 onwards | 8.5 | 4.5 | 9.9 | 3.7 | 4.6 | 1.8 | 0.8 | 2.5 | 9.1 |

| Greater Capital City Statistical Areas | Feb-78 — Sep-82 | Oct-82 — Aug-87 | Sep-87 — Feb-89 | Mar-89 — Aug-92 | Sep-92 — Aug-97 | Sep-97 — Oct-98 Sep-98 | Oct-98 — Feb-03 |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Greater Sydney | 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 5.3 | 5.7 | 5.8 |
| Rest of NSW | 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 5.3 | 5.7 | 5.8 |
| Greater Melbourne | 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 3.3 |
| Rest of Victoria | 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 3.2 |
| Greater Brisbane | 3.5 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.4 |
| Rest of Queensland | 3.5 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.6 | 4.3 | 3.6 |
| Greater Adelaide | 2.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.7 |
| Rest of South Australia | 2.5 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 2.5 |
| Greater Perth | 2.5 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 2.6 | 2.3 |
| Rest of Western Australia | 2.5 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 2.2 |
| Greater Hobart | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 0.9 |
| Rest of Tasmania | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| | Mar-03 — Feb-08 | Mar-08 — Jun-08 | Jul-08 — Oct-09 | Nov-09 — Jun-13 | Jul-13 — Jan-14 | Feb-14 onwards | |
| Greater Sydney | 6.5 | 5.7 | 7.1 | 5.7 | 7.6 | 7.7 | |
| Rest of NSW | 6.4 | 5.6 | 7.0 | 5.6 | 7.5 | 7.6 | |
| Greater Melbourne | 3.2 | 5.1 | 6.4 | 5.1 | 4.0 | 4.0 | |
| Rest of Victoria | 3.1 | 5.0 | 6.3 | 5.0 | 3.9 | 3.9 | |
| Greater Brisbane | 4.1 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 4.0 | 5.9 | 6.0 | |
| Rest of Queensland | 4.4 | 4.3 | 5.4 | 4.3 | 6.3 | 6.4 | |
| Greater Adelaide | 2.5 | 2.7 | 3.4 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.0 | |
| Rest of South Australia | 2.4 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 2.5 | 2.8 | 2.8 | |
| Greater Perth | 2.6 | 3.5 | 4.3 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 4.0 | |
| Rest of Western Australia | 2.5 | 3.3 | 4.1 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.8 | |
| Greater Hobart | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 | |
| Rest of Tasmania | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.5 | |
| Statistical Area Level 4 | Oct-98 | Mar-03 | Mar-08 | Jul-08 | Nov-09 | Jul-13 | Feb-14 |

| Regions | — Feb-03 | — Feb-08 | — Jun-08 | — Oct-09 | — Jun-13 | — Jan-14 | onwards |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Central Coast | 7.4 | 8.5 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 10.2 | 10.4 |
| Sydney - Baulkham Hills and Hawkesbury | 7.2 | 8.3 | 7.0 | 9.2 | 7.0 | 10.0 | 10.2 |
| Sydney - Blacktown | 7.3 | 8.3 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 7.1 | 10.0 | 10.2 |
| Sydney - City and Inner South | 8.5 | 9.7 | 8.3 | 10.8 | 8.3 | 11.7 | 11.9 |
| Sydney - Eastern Suburbs | 9.6 | 11.0 | 9.3 | 12.2 | 9.3 | 13.1 | 13.4 |
| Sydney - Inner South West | 7.3 | 8.4 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 7.1 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Sydney - Inner West | 7.7 | 8.8 | 7.5 | 9.8 | 7.5 | 10.6 | 10.8 |
| Sydney - North Sydney and Hornsby | 7.6 | 8.6 | 7.3 | 9.6 | 7.3 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| Sydney - Northern Beaches | 7.8 | 8.9 | 7.6 | 9.9 | 7.6 | 10.7 | 10.9 |
| Sydney - Outer South West | 7.3 | 8.4 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 7.1 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Sydney - Outer West and Blue Mountains | 7.3 | 8.3 | 7.1 | 9.3 | 7.1 | 10.0 | 10.2 |
| Sydney - Parramatta | 7.8 | 8.9 | 7.6 | 10.0 | 7.6 | 10.8 | 11.0 |
| Sydney - Ryde | 7.7 | 8.8 | 7.5 | 9.8 | 7.5 | 10.6 | 10.8 |
| Sydney - South West | 7.5 | 8.6 | 7.3 | 9.6 | 7.3 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| Sydney - Sutherland | 7.4 | 8.4 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Capital Region | 7.2 | 8.2 | 7.0 | 9.2 | 7.0 | 9.9 | 10.1 |
| Central West | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Coffs Harbour - Grafton | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Far West and Orana | 7.4 | 8.4 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| Hunter Valley exc Newcastle | 7.1 | 8.1 | 6.9 | 9.0 | 6.9 | 9.8 | 10.0 |
| Illawarra | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Mid North Coast | 7.5 | 8.6 | 7.3 | 9.6 | 7.3 | 10.3 | 10.6 |
| Murray | 7.6 | 8.6 | 7.4 | 9.6 | 7.4 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| New England and North West | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Newcastle and Lake Macquarie | 7.1 | 8.1 | 6.9 | 9.0 | 6.9 | 9.8 | 9.9 |
| Richmond - Tweed | 7.6 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 10.5 | 10.7 |
| Riverina | 7.6 | 8.6 | 7.4 | 9.6 | 7.4 | 10.4 | 10.6 |
| Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven | 9.0 | 10.3 | 8.7 | 11.4 | 8.7 | 12.3 | 12.6 |
| Melbourne - Inner | 4.1 | 3.9 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 5.2 | 5.3 |
| Melbourne - Inner East | 3.6 | 3.4 | 6.2 | 8.2 | 6.2 | 4.5 | 4.6 |
| Melbourne - Inner South | 3.7 | 3.5 | 6.4 | 8.4 | 6.4 | 4.7 | 4.8 |
| Melbourne - North East | 3.8 | 3.6 | 6.6 | 8.6 | 6.6 | 4.8 | 4.9 |
| Melbourne - North West | 3.7 | 3.6 | 6.5 | 8.6 | 6.5 | 4.7 | 4.8 |
| Melbourne - Outer East | 3.8 | 3.6 | 6.6 | 8.7 | 6.6 | 4.8 | 4.9 |
| Melbourne - South East | 3.6 | 3.4 | 6.3 | 8.3 | 6.3 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Melbourne - West | 3.5 | 3.4 | 6.1 | 8.1 | 6.1 | 4.4 | 4.5 |
| Mornington Peninsula | 3.6 | 3.5 | 6.4 | 8.3 | 6.4 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Ballarat | 4.0 | 3.8 | 6.9 | 9.1 | 6.9 | 5.0 | 5.1 |
| Bendigo | 3.8 | 3.7 | 6.7 | 8.8 | 6.7 | 4.9 | 5.0 |
| Geelong | 3.7 | 3.5 | 6.5 | 8.5 | 6.5 | 4.7 | 4.8 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Hume | 4.3 | 4.1 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 5.4 | 5.5 |
| Latrobe - Gippsland | 4.1 | 3.9 | 7.2 | 9.4 | 7.2 | 5.2 | 5.3 |
| North West | 3.9 | 3.7 | 6.8 | 8.9 | 6.8 | 4.9 | 5.0 |
| Shepparton | 4.3 | 4.1 | 7.4 | 9.7 | 7.4 | 5.4 | 5.5 |
| Warrnambool and South West | 3.7 | 3.5 | 6.5 | 8.5 | 6.5 | 4.7 | 4.8 |
| Brisbane - East | 4.1 | 5.1 | 5.1 | 6.7 | 5.1 | 8.1 | 8.2 |
| Brisbane - North | 4.1 | 5.2 | 5.1 | 6.7 | 5.1 | 8.1 | 8.3 |
| Brisbane - South | 4.2 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 6.8 | 5.2 | 8.2 | 8.4 |
| Brisbane - West | 4.1 | 5.2 | 5.1 | 6.7 | 5.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 |
| Brisbane Inner City | 4.2 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 6.9 | 5.3 | 8.4 | 8.6 |
| Ipswich | 4.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 6.5 | 5.0 | 7.9 | 8.1 |
| Logan - Beaudesert | 4.3 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 7.0 | 5.3 | 8.4 | 8.6 |
| Moreton Bay - North | 3.9 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 6.4 | 4.8 | 7.7 | 7.9 |
| Moreton Bay - South | 3.9 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 6.3 | 4.8 | 7.7 | 7.9 |
| Cairns | 4.9 | 6.2 | 6.1 | 8.0 | 6.1 | 9.7 | 9.9 |
| Darling Downs - Maranoa | 4.6 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 9.1 | 9.3 |
| Fitzroy | 4.2 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 6.9 | 5.2 | 8.3 | 8.5 |
| Gold Coast | 4.3 | 5.5 | 5.4 | 7.1 | 5.4 | 8.6 | 8.7 |
| Mackay | 4.2 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 6.9 | 5.2 | 8.3 | 8.5 |
| Queensland - Outback | 4.7 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 7.6 | 5.8 | 9.2 | 9.4 |
| Sunshine Coast | 4.3 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 7.0 | 5.3 | 8.5 | 8.7 |
| Toowoomba | 4.6 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 9.0 | 9.2 |
| Townsville | 4.7 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 7.6 | 5.8 | 9.2 | 9.4 |
| Wide Bay | 4.6 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 7.5 | 5.7 | 9.0 | 9.2 |
| Adelaide - Central and Hills | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 4.3 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.8 |
| Adelaide - North | 3.3 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 4.3 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.8 |
| Adelaide - South | 3.4 | 3.1 | 3.4 | 4.4 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 3.9 |
| Adelaide - West | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 4.8 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| Barossa - Yorke - Mid North | 3.5 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 4.0 |
| South Australia - Outback | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 4.8 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| South Australia - South East | 3.1 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 4.0 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| Mandurah | 2.4 | 2.8 | 4.0 | 5.2 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Perth - Inner | 3.1 | 3.5 | 4.9 | 6.5 | 4.9 | 5.8 | 5.9 |
| Perth - North East | 2.9 | 3.3 | 4.6 | 6.1 | 4.6 | 5.4 | 5.5 |
| Perth - North West | 2.8 | 3.2 | 4.5 | 5.9 | 4.5 | 5.2 | 5.3 |
| Perth - South East | 2.9 | 3.3 | 4.7 | 6.1 | 4.7 | 5.5 | 5.6 |
| Perth - South West | 2.7 | 3.1 | 4.3 | 5.7 | 4.3 | 5.0 | 5.1 |
| Bunbury | 2.4 | 2.8 | 4.0 | 5.2 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Western Australia - Outback | 2.8 | 3.3 | 4.6 | 6.0 | 4.6 | 5.4 | 5.5 |
| Western Australia - Wheat Belt | 2.6 | 3.0 | 4.2 | 5.5 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 5.0 |
| Greater Hobart | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.3 |
| Launceston and North East | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| Tasmania - South East | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.2 |
| Tasmania - West and North West | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.8 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Darwin | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Northern Territory - Outback | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 |

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